



March 2021

board update

From the President



Wishing everyone a Happy Passover. Please see the Executive Summary below to learn about the latest updates at TBE.



Jonathan Gelchinsky
President
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Executive Summary for March 16, 2021

The meeting started with the approval of the February Board meeting minutes. Kate Shalvoy then updated the Board on a number of matters. Mad Science plans to return and rent space in our school wing over the summer, and terms are being discussed. We continue to see new members joining the temple. Progress is being made on security project plans that will be funded by the award of governmental grants, and TBE is continuing to apply for future security grants, with Josh Filler taking the lead. The Board got a look at a design sketch of the new Deering Avenue signage, for which a contractor will soon be engaged. The budget process for next year will soon be underway.

Kate, together with Josh Rosen, provided an update on Social Kashrut, and the draft community standards document that is now in progress.

Rabbi discussed Passover plans, including a prepared meals pop-up by Board member Ariel Bernstein and her chef husband, Hagai, and seder plate kits that will be available to all members and interested non-members alike, courtesy of TBE and the Social Kashrut Task Force. Kudos to Barbara and Gil Dichter for assembling the charoset kits. Danika Kuhl and Lorin Troderman will serve as “Matzah Mentors” to help members with any questions as they organize their seders.

Jon updated the Board on plans to renew Shaarey T’philoh’s lease of the classroom they presently occupy in the school wing, which serves as their sanctuary. The discussion then continued regarding Charlie Dibner’s presentation last month on the endowment, with some

further details regarding the endowment's history and oversight. There is interest in exploring ethical investing principles.

Kate then led an initial discussion about reopening the building, particularly having in-person services outdoors when the weather is appropriate, as well as certain KBE in-person activities. A number of issues will need to be addressed, including what to do in case of inclement weather, finding members to lead services while Rabbi is out for knee surgery at two points during the summer, how to handle security for outdoor services, and the hiring of a Facilities staff person. A Re-Opening Task Force will be assembled for this purpose.

The Board had a brief discussion about governance structure, and the idea of organizing member-led groups into three types: (a) task forces, for shorter-term project based work; (b) committees, for perpetual work on critical synagogue functions; and (c) affinity groups, namely, peer-led interest groups focused on community building. There are still questions to be answered in doing this kind of structuring, and this will likely coincide with updates to TBE's constitution.

Kate provided an update on the playground project and task force, and the plans to enter into a memorandum of understanding with Levey.

Finally, Jon provided a financial update based on Sherri's monthly report, noting that she is still predicting a surplus of approximately \$38,000.



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